ESSEX COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 17th, 2026

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Tyler in the Westport Youth & Ag Building at 7:49 a.m.

Unless otherwise noted, votes on motions were unanimous.

Attendance: Board members Ike Tyler, Ben Leerkes, Tim Pierce, and Mike Davis. Anna Reynolds was not in attendance and was excused. SWCD- Renee Clark, Alice Halloran, Technicians- Meagan, Noah, Daniel and Mathew.

MOTION to accept the August 20th, 2026 minutes was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.

Correspondence – Alice provided the Board with an update on upcoming meetings and communications from the Directors Forum.

Farm Bureau Update-

Monthly Updates

Secretary Update was reviewed by the Board. (Appendix 1)
MOTION to accept the September update was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.
District Manager Update was reviewed by the Board. (Appendix 2)
MOTION to accept the September update was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.
Technician Update (Daniel) – was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 3)
MOTION to accept the September update was made by Davis, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.
Technician Update (Meagan) – was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 4)
MOTION to accept the September update was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.
Technician Update (Noah) – was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 5)
MOTION to accept the September update was made by Davis, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.
Technician Update (Mathew) – was reviewed by the Board (Appendix 6)
MOTION to accept the September update was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.

PROJECTS: A **MOTION** was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried to approve payment to Intervale in the amount of $1,200.00 for live stakes associated with a Buffer Project.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Fall Intern**- A **MOTION** to approve the hiring Kenneth Wrisley on a as- needed basis as a Fall intern was made by Pierce, seconded by Leerkes, and carried.

- **Managers Meeting**- A discussion was held, and Mike Davis requested that Alice register him to attend the meeting in Syracuse. All travel and meal expenses will be covered by the District.

- **Forest Management**- A **MOTION** was made by Davis, seconded by Leerkes, and carried to approve the forestry planning proposal for five Essex County reforestation areas. Services will be provided by F&W Forestry Services at a cost of $21,500.00.

NEW BUSINESS

- **AGNPS Round 28** - A **RESOLUTION** was made by Pierce, seconded by Leerkes, and carried to approve a time extension amendment request for Contract # C701502.

- **Bristol Mountain**- A **RESOLUTION** was made by Leerkes, seconded by Pierce, and carried to close grant and bank account for Bristol Mountain Grant # T012304

- **AGNPS Round 26**- A **RESOLUTION** was made by Pierce, seconded by Davis, and carried to close grant and bank account for Essex Farm HUA Grant # C701412

- **AEM 19 -**A **MOTION** was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried to approve initial planning payment to Agricultural Consulting Services for 5 CNMP plans.

OTHER

- **Budget Line Transfer**-A **MOTION** was made by Pierce, seconded by Davis, and carried to approve the transfer of $6,482.89 from the vehicle expense line to the intern expense line.

District Treasurer

A. A financial report was presented to the Directors, (Appendix 7)**.** A **MOTION** was made by Leerkes to accept the July report as presented, seconded by Davis, and carried.

B. Bills due for payment in the amount of $289,645.37 were presented to the Board for approval, (Appendix 8). A **MOTION** was made by Leerkes to accept and pay the September bills for approval, and pay as such, seconded by Pierce, and carried.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

NRCS – No Report

NYSSWCC – (Appendix 9)

NYACD- No Report

Other Business

With no further business and/or discussion to come before the Board a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 a.m. was made by Leerkes, seconded by Davis, and carried.

Next Meeting – Thursday, October 15th, 2026 at 7:45 a.m. at the Westport Youth & Ag Building

Attachments: Appendix 1 - Secretary Update (Renee)
Appendix 2 - District Manager Update (Alice)
Appendix 3 - Technician Update (Daniel)
Appendix 4 - Technician Update (Meagan)
Appendix 5 - Technician Update (Noah)
Appendix 6 - Technician Update (Mathew)
Appendix 7 - Financial Report
Appendix 8- Bills
Appendix 9- NYSSWCC Report

Submitted by:

Renee Clark, Secretary to the Board